

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the title as follows:

-- NON-MALLEABLE ENCRYPTION AND SIGNATURE METHOD AND APPARATUS --

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A method comprising the steps of:

encrypting a data message m using a primary transmitter secret key z to form a quantity

E;

preparing a quadruplet $(a_{\text{new}}, b_{\text{new}}, s_{\text{new}}, E)$ where:

$$a_{\text{new}} = z^* y^c \bmod p;$$

$$b_{\text{new}} = g^c \bmod p;$$

$$s_{\text{new}} = \text{signature}_c(a_{\text{new}}, b_{\text{new}}, E);$$

where $y = g^x \bmod p$, c is a random number, x is a receiver secret key, and the parameters g , x , and p are picked using a known encryption method;

wherein s_{new} is a signature which is determined by using the same random number c

that was used to determine a_{new} and b_{new} :

verifying the signature s_{new} ;

decrypting a_{new} and b_{new} using the receiver secret key x to get the primary transmitter secret key z ;

using the primary transmitter secret key z to decrypt the quantity E and thereby obtaining the message m .

2. (original) The method of claim 1 and wherein: